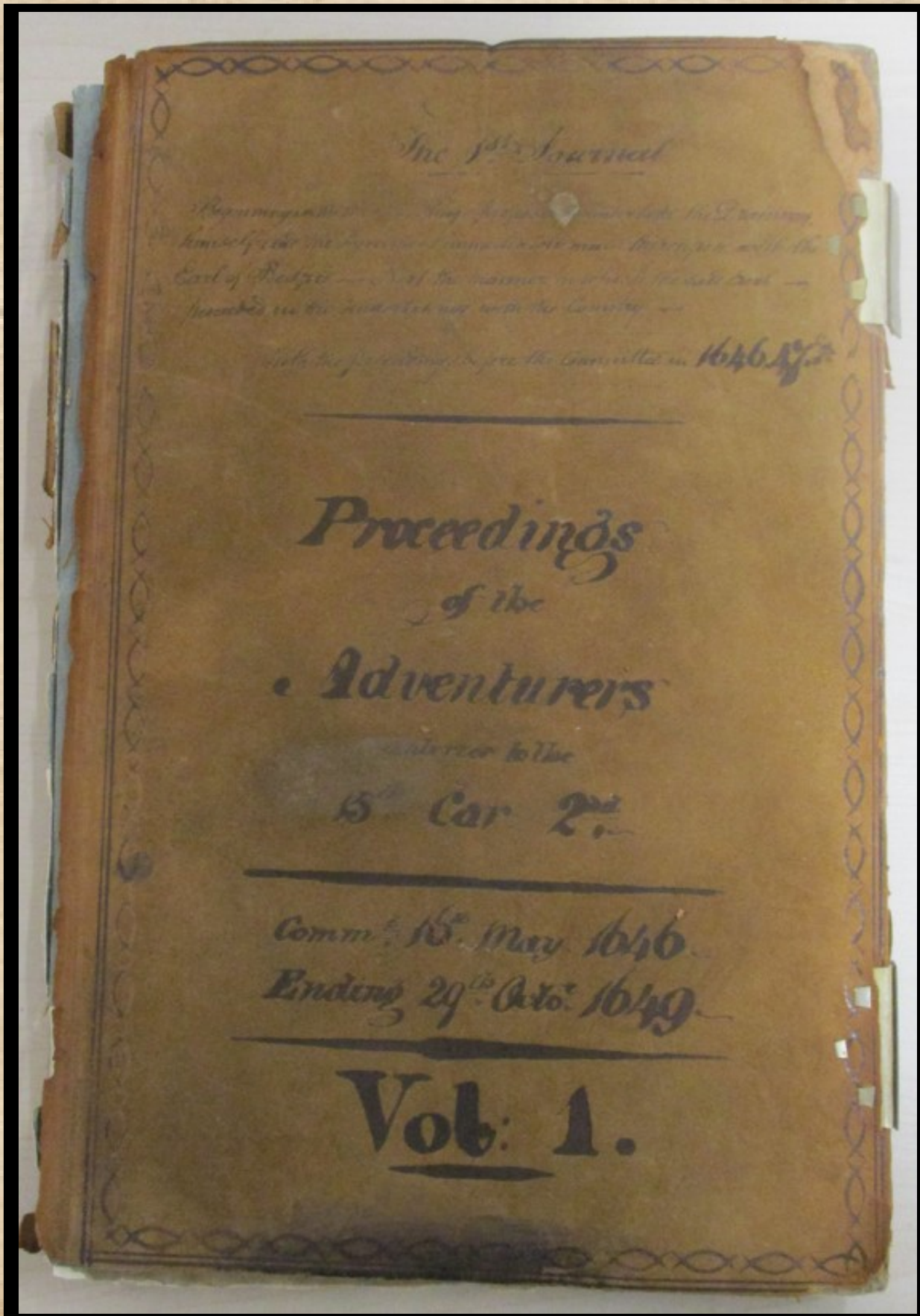


The Adventurers: A new exploration of the archives

Transcription of Volume I by Peter Daldorph



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Preface

This document is a full transcription of the *Proceedings of the Adventures* for the period May 1649 to November 1649. The original document is held by the Cambridgeshire Archives in Ely (Reference: KBLC/2/1/1).

The entries are ordered by date and paragraph number for each date. Where possible the original spelling has been retained except in a few cases where the meaning of the word would be hard to distinguish by a modern reader. Modern punctuation has, however, been added to make the text more readable (commas and full stops).

Entries in bold – e.g. **[Page 3]** show the original page numbers.

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The transcription was carried out by Peter Daldorph

Date	No	Text
29/05/49	1	[Page 1] The Acte for drayninge the Great Levell of the Fennes passed the howse between the howers of 10 and 12 in the morninge
29/05/49	2	It was desired by the Adventurers and Participants that the Earles of Arundell and Bedford bee desired to attend Lieutenantt Generall Cromwell and Comissary Ireton tomorrow morninge att 7 a clocke to returne a thankefull acknowledgement
30/05/49	1	Mett at the Lord Whittelockes howse nere Temple Barre Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Thym, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Henley, Mr Crane, Mr Latch, Mr Gorges, Mr Jennings
30/05/49	2	Agreed to pay and did then contribute £40 a peece for discharge of the clarkes fees of the Parliament for passinge and engrossinge the Acte
30/05/49	3	They appointed to meete every Monday, Wednesay and Friday in the weeke at the place aforesaid Agreed to send letters to all those absent
01/06/49	1	Earles of Arundell and Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Gorges, Mr Henley, Mr Hamond, Mr Crane, Mr Jennings
01/06/49	2	They tooke into consideration what taxes or scott should bee sett upon every acre. The taxe propounded was 2s and 2d per acre, the one moytie or 15d thereof to bee forthwith [Page 2] raised, the other moytie a month hence but nothinge concluded but resolved to incist upon a tax on Monday next and then Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to bee desired to bee present and hee to propound his demandes for perfectinge the worke and a contract of agreement in writinge to be made with him.
04/06/49	1	Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley, Mr Hamond, Mr Crane, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings, Mr Smith, Earl Bedford
04/06/49	2	Tooke into consideration what officers shall bee necessary viz - A treasurer and his instructions 1 Hee or such a sufficient deputie as hee will answer for to enter every some of money received into a booke to give acquittances for the somes received 2 Hee that paies any some shall within 3 daies bringe an acquittance to enter with the clarke 3 The treasurer or his deputie shall once in a weeke deliver to the clarke a short abstrActe of all the severall somes of money receieved the precedinge weeke, expressinge the tyme when and of whome received, and also the perticuler somes issued that precedinge weeke and to whome 4 The treasurers to issue out noe money but by order in writing first had from five or more Adventurers or Participants or from one Adventurer upon the place, the director

and comptroller or two of them

5 The treasurer, if any money remaynes in his handes then to issue the same by order of five of more or the Adventurers or Participants at their generall meetinge.

04/06/49

2 Expenditor and his instructions

1 To give an acquittance for every some of money hee receives and enter the some into the booke, made and kept by him, expressing the tyme when and of whome received, and shall enter into the same booke the perticuler somes by him issued, and when and to whome and hee is to issue out noe money but to those that doe the worke and by warrant from the director, comptroller and overseer of the worke or any two of them, of which the comptroller to be allwaies one

2 That the expenditor the last daie of every month, if not the Lords day then the next daie procedinge, shall deliver a perticuler accoumpt under his hand to the comptroller of all perticuler somes of money by him received and issued during that month, and when and to whome, and the comptroller to examyn the same with his booke and finding the same turne to signe and forthwith to transmitt it to the clarke

3 That the expenditor make his account in Hillary terme every yeare or sooner if thereunto required by five or more of the Adventurers and Participants and pay such money as is in his handes, as 5 or more of the Adventurers or Participants shall order at their generall meetinge

04/06/49

3 Clarke and his instructions

1 To keepe 3 bookes, one for all orders att generall meetinges, another for all accoumpts that have relation to the Company, a third for enteringe all conveyances and other assurances and charges upon landes within the levell

2 To cause true, faire and exact entries to bee made from tyme to tyme into the severall bookes without any unnecessary delay

3 That hee shall attend all the meetinges appointed by the Adventurers and Participants or any 5 of them or an 6 of more of the Participants

4 That hee shall constantly reside in some certaine place within the cities of London or Westminster unless he hath leave given him by 5 or more of the Adventurers or Participants att a generall meetinge and then leave some sufficient deputie as 5 or more of the Participants or Adventurers shall approve of

[Page 3] 5 That hee permitt any of the Adventurers or Participants to have accesse to the said bookes from tyme to tyme or any other person in their presence and not otherwise. And to send copies to any Adventurers or Participants desiring the same under their hands

6 That hee shall not permitt any person other then an Adventurer or Participant to peruse eyther the books of orders or the booke of accounts or the booke of conveyances and assurances or deliver any copies of or out of the same but by order at generall meetinge from 5 or more of the Adventurers or Participants or 6 or more Comissioners

05/06/49

1 Earle of Arundell, Earl of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Mr John Russell, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Gorges, Mr Henley, Mr Hamon, Mr Castell, Mr Fountayne, Mr Bridges executor of Lord Brookes, Mr Crane, Mr Marsham, Mr Bradley

To appoint how and where and in what manner and when from tyme to tyme the workes or banckes, sluices, sasses and rivers and dreynes are to bee made as of what dimensions of length, height, depth, breadth and the like, observing the rules lymitted by the Act of Parliament, to appoint from tyme to tyme the surveyour and overseers respectively to lay and sett out the workes accordingly. To give direction from tyme to tyme to oversee the same to bee done by his direction and of what fashion and manner hee shall order the same.

2 The Director with the consent of Sir Miles Sandys knight and baronett and Robert Castell Esqr or one of them to appoint all materialls necessary as wheelebarrows deelee boards, planks, tymber and the like to bee made and bought so as it may benefitt to advance the worke

3 To bargain and contrActe by and with the like consent to and with the workemen and master workemen for the doinge of the respective workes to bee made at the ordinary and reasonable rates

4 In some place where if cannot bee done by undertaking or agreement by the lumpe or rodde then to sett workemen on by the day or by the weeke accordinge as occasion, and to allow wages for the same as is usuall in such cases in that Countrye

5 That the director shall in all thinges observe the Acte of Parliament and cause the Great Levell of the Fennes to bee dreyned according to the Acte

6 To have an eie over all the accoumpts and payments done by the expeditor

Sir Cornelius Vermuyden beinge named for the director and debate was had whether hee should not persue and submitt to such direction and order therein as hee shall from tyme to tyme receive from the Adventurers or Participants or the major part of them at a generall meetinge

Sir Cornelius desired tyme to consider it by tomorrow 3 a clocke in the afternoone and then to deliver in his reasons and demandes

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| 06/06/49 | 1 | Sir Miles Sandys, Mr Fountayne, Mr Hamond, Mr John Russell, Mr Gorges, Mr Bradley, Mr Henley, Mr Crane, Mr Jennings, Mr Castell, Mr Marsham |
| 06/06/49 | 2 | [Page 4] Sir Cornelius Vermuydens letter was read but nothing was done thereupon. Twas desired Sir Cornelius should appear in person himselfe tomorrow three a clocke in the afternoone and then to deliver in his demands and reasons to the Adventurers |
| 06/06/49 | 3 | Mr Weston touchinge the 2000 acres claymed by him out of the Kings 12000 acres, promised Mr Fountayne after tomorrow to produce his writings, deedes and evidences to manifest his title and to make the consideration appeare |
| 07/06/49 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Mr Fountayne, Mr Hamond, Mr Castell, Mr Crane, Mr Ingrams, Mr Gorges, Mr Bradley, Mr Jennings |
| 07/06/49 | 2 | Agreed to have the power of comptrollment from tyme to tyme over the director |
| 07/06/49 | 3 | Ordered that eleaven of the Adventurers or Participants att least, whereof the Earle of Arundell, Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Robert Henley and Robert Castell or |

any 3 of them att the least to bee present att the order of comptrollment

07/06/49	4	<p>A comptroller and his instructions</p> <p>1 To certifie what money is paid in to the expendor by the treasurer and to keepe a weekly correspondence with the expendor and clarke to the Companie</p> <p>2 To keepe a counterbooke with the expendor of what money hee received and paies out to the workemen for the workes</p> <p>3 When any worke is to bee paid for (if hee bee present upon the worke) hee is to sett his hand to the warrant for the expendor to issue out the money and to keepe a booke of all warrants requiring any money so to bee issued out and to whome and to what purpose</p> <p>4 That all materialls shall bee delivered to him and hee, or his deputie, to give acquittances for the same and to bee issued out by his appointment to such as shall bee accomptable for the same, and to keep counter booke of the materialls with the overseers of the workes and to appoint his man and servants under him for disposing of the materialls</p> <p>5 That once every month hee send up in writinge to the clarke what materialls were delivered in and issued out and what workes designed, undertaken, proceeded in or perfected the precedinge month and what money received and issued by the expendor</p>
08/06/49	1	<p>Earl of Arundell, Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Mr Gorges, Mr Fountayne, Mr Castell, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings, Mr Hamond, Mr Ingrams</p>
08/06/49	2	<p>Incisted upon 2 points in questions to bee propounded to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden</p> <p>1 That Sir Cornelius Vermuyden will discover his designe to 3 such persons, as the Adventurers or the major part of them shall appoint they to see his plott or designe, and issue and promise theire faith not to discover to any if they not approve of it and in case they doe approve of it to contract with him</p> <p>2 What recompence or compensation hee shall have for perfectinge the workes</p> <p>To the first agreed</p> <p>[Page 5] To the 2nd, as touchinge the recompense demanded, 7 of the Adventurers consent to give Sir Cornelius 4000 acres, other seaven agreed to give him but 2000 acres, my Lord Bedford onely dissentinge and his Lordshippes vote was for 3000 acres but yet afterwards to secure the seale hee consented to 4000 acres</p>
09/06/49	1	<p>Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Gorges, Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley, Mr Castell, Mr Ingram, Mr Hamond, Mr Latch, Sir Edward Partherich</p>
09/06/49	2	<p>Sir Cornelius Vermuyden beinge present, after much debate hee promised to them his designe on Monday next to such 5 of the Adventurers as the major part shall appoint</p>
09/06/49	3	<p>Agreed that Mr Peters bee desired to repayre to Mr Marshall and they 2 to contract for 1000 wheelbarrows at the cheapest rate and to be made with all expedition</p>
09/06/49	4	<p>Memorand when tymber shall bee thought fitt to bee bought, a letter to bee sent to Mr Toll who can furnish the Adventurers with good tymber</p>

09/06/49	5	Memorand to enter every man his share and clayme under his hand against the generall meeting on Thursday next
11/06/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Fountayne, Mr Bradley, Mr Ingram, Sir Thomas Thyme, Sir Edward Partridge, Sir Thomas Gardener, Mr Annesley, Mr Latch
11/06/49	2	The Earle of Bedford acquainted the Adventurers with a discourse hee had with a dutchman touchinge some reasons hee alledged for the better perfectinge the worke of dreyninge
11/06/49	3	Touchinge Mr Weston and the 12000 acres which was referred to a committee, the Adventurers appointed Mr Gorges, Mr Henley, Mr Castell, and Mr Crane should attend the Committee and procecute the busines and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden bee desired to give his assistance therein.
11/06/49	4	<p>The Adventurers incisted upon certain queries formerly propounded viz</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 What proportion of tax shall bee raised by the acre 2 Whether every lott shall beare the rate of 4000 acres or 3900 acres 3 Whether the 15000 acres be taxed or not 4 When the first tax shall bee paid 5 Whether the Adventurers shall bringe in their money or a collector bee sent to demand it 6 Whether any penaltie and what penaltie shall bee imposed upon any defaulter that bringes not in his money att the tyme allotted 7 What course the tax sett upon the 15000 acres 8 Whether any perticular notice shall bee given to any person or persons for the payment of their taxes <p>Queries answered</p> <p>[Page 6] 1 As to the first, agreed to impose a tax of 2s and 6d an acre upon every acre</p> <p>2 To the 2nd querie, agreed that every lott shall beare the rate of 4000 acres</p> <p>3 To the 3rd querie, agreed to tax the 15000 acres</p> <p>4 To the 4th querie, agreed that the first moytie or 15d to bee paid 25th of this month of June, the other moytie or 15d to bee paid the first of August next</p> <p>5 To the 5th querie, agreed that the Adventurers shall bringe in their money themselves at their perills and a place shall bee assigned</p> <p>6 To the 6th querie, agreed that every defaulter in payinge in his taxes after the tyme expired to pay ten shillings in the 100 part the first weeke and 20 percented the 2nd weeke and so pro rata for every weeke after untill the first of August next beinge the day for payment of the first tax. And in default of payment then and the penalties thereupon, the land to bee sold att the next generall meetinge of the Adventurers of Participants</p> <p>7 Querie waved</p> <p>8 Querie waved</p>
12/06/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley, Mr Hamond, Mr Latch, Mr Crane, Mr Castell, Mr Bradley, Mr Marsham
12/06/49	2	Ordered that Mr Smith, the Earl of Bedfords sollicitor bee desired to attend the comittee touchinge the 12000 acres together with those gent and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden formerly nominated

12/06/49	3	One Mr Strafford came in the behalfe of Mr Dereham who (as hee said) claymed 1500 acres havinge formely contrActed with 4 townes, viz Wisbich, Newton, Leverington and Tyd St Giles. The result was Mr Dereham should send in his case in writing to the Adventurers
12/06/49	4	Deputie Jones, nominated treasurer, to take and receive the money upon subscriptions who beinge absent Mr Castell was desired to acquaint him with it.
12/06/49	5	John Hopkinson beinge then present was nominated and chosen clarke to enter the subscriptions into a booke for that purpose
12/06/49	6	They incisted upon the severall lotts and perticuler claymes every man made to his proportion of acres
12/06/49	7	They also incisted upon provision for wheelebarrows. Sir Cornelius Vermuyden beinge present writt a letter to Mr Marshall to contract the same
12/06/49	8	Agreed that all the Act of Parliament bee read over by the clarke on Thursdaie next in the Middle Temple hall and there to meete at 9 a clocke in the morninge and, then and there to chose a treasurer and clarke accordinge to the said Acte and so to adjourne
13/06/49	1	Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley, Mr Hamond, Mr Marsham, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings, Mr Crane, Mr Castell, Mr Ingram
13/06/49	2	[Page 7] They incisted upon accounts and arreres of every Participant
13/06/49	3	Ordered that the note of arreres of every Adventurer or Participant bee left with the clarke and that all persons that are in arreres doe pay in their respective arreres by the 24th of July next or else in the meane tyme make it appeare unto Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Ingram, Mr Henley and Mr Hamond or to any two of them, to whome it is referred, that noe such arreres are due and unsatisfyed but that they have acquittances to prove the payment thereof, and this to be under the penaltie of such as pay not in their taxes
13/06/49	4	Mr Castell retorned answer from Deputie Jones that hee desired to be excused from beinge treasurer to receive the subscription money in regard of his great occasions and desired the Adventurers to nominate some other in his roome
13/06/49	5	Ordered that a warrant bee drawne enablinge Robert Goodfellow, Robert Turner and William Palmer to demande and receive all writings and mappes which concerned the Company which warrant was subscribed by the Adventurers accordingly and that they bringe them to Mr Henleys howse.
13/06/49	6	Ordered that Mr Fisher bee desired to deliver up all such writings and mappes in his handes as doe concerne the Adventurers
13/06/49	7	Ordered that any person that will speake towards the advancement of the worke of dreyninge (in the presence of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden) shall bee at liberte to speake his mynde and shall be heard by the Adventurers
14/06/49	1	At a meetinge in the Middle Temple Hall of the Adventurers and Participants by vertue of the Act of Parliament for the dreyninge of the Great Levell of the Fennes Earle of Bedford, Mr John Russell, Mr Edward Russell, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Gardiner, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Fountayne, Mr Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Mr Latch, Mr Castell, Mr Hamond, Mr Crane, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Jennings, Mr Ingram, Mr

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| 14/06/49 | 2 | William Earle of Bedford by all the Adventurers and Participants, then present, was chosen to be treasurer for the Companie |
| 14/06/49 | 3 | George Smith by the major part of the Adventurers and Participants, then present, was chosen to bee clarke to the Companie |
| 14/06/49 | 4 | John Hopkinson to be taken into consideration for his recompence att present, and for his future imployment att the next meetinge |
| 14/06/49 | 5 | Upon receipt of 3 petitions out of the Isle of Elie on the behalfe of Lieutenantt Colonell Dodson, to bee made Director in the workes, Mr Fountayne was desired by the Companie, upon readinge the said petition, to retorne thanks to the Countie (by those that brought them) for their care and good affection, both to the Adventurers [Page 8] and good of the workes, and to lett them know care shall likewise bee taken by them, equally for the good of the Country with themselves, and Lieutenantt Colonell Dodson should bee heard concerninge his designe and to attend the Companie for that purpose this afternoone att 4 a clocke |
| 14/06/49 p.m. | 1 | At Mr Henleyes howse

Earle of Bedford, Mr John Russell, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Thyme, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Ingram, Mr Bradley, Mr Hamond, Mr Castell, Mr Marsham, Mr Gorges, Mr Crane, Mr Latch |
| 14/06/49 p.m. | 2 | Lieutenantt Colonell Dodson declared his designe for the setting of a sluice on the River Owse and effectinge the worke of dreyninge by new rivers and not by bankes, and it was agreed his design bee taken into further consideration |
| 14/06/49 p.m. | 3 | It was agreed by all present that Mr Hopkinson bee employed to keepe a counter booke with the expendor of all his accoumpts, and that the perticuler of his office and charge that shall be comitted to him bee taken into consideration at the next meetinge. |
| 15/06/49 | 1 | Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Fountayne, Mr Ingram, Mr Castell, Mr Crane |
| 15/06/49 | 2 | It was desired and agreed that the Earle of Bedford, Robert Henley Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr and William Crane Esqr advance £25 a peece, as in part of their proportions of the first tax, sett 11th June instant, for the use of the Companie and to bee paid to the treasurer |
| 15/06/49 | 3 | It was debated whether not fitt to appoint one of the Companie to bee expendor to receive and issue out allowances in the Country and all materialls for the workes, and hee to appoint a sufficient number of persons under him for those ends and oversight of the workes, with settinge sallaries |
| 15/06/49 | 4 | And whether Mr Hopkinson might not bee chiefe clarke, to keepe accoumpts of all those thinges and give advise thereof from tyme to tyme to the Companie, and how the workes are designed and perfected and so save the charge of an expendor

And this debate was referred to be resumed and resolved at the next meetinge |
| 15/06/49 | 5 | And it was proposed that Robert Castell Esqr bee desired to take this office of comptroller upon him |

15/06/49	6	And the sallaries of each person are likewise wholly referred to the adjudication of the Company at the next meetinge and it was agreed that the Companie bee desired to observe theire meetinges.
15/06/49	7	[Page 9] Mr Weston brought the Companie from the Earle of Portland a copie of his grant of the 2000 acres claymed by him which Mr Fountayne tooke to peruse and to retorne his opinion thereupon to the Companie
16/06/49	1	Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Goodwyn, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Hamond, Mr Fountayne, Mr Ingram, Mr Castell, Mr Crane
16/06/49	2	The offer yesterday proposed for Mr Castell was resumed in debate to him and hee, in answer thereunto, desired satisfaction concerninge the officers to bee employed under him before hee give a further answer thereunto
16/06/49	3	It was agreed that Mr Hopkinson shall have 20s a weeke for his sallarie to beginne at the tyme when the Acte passed, and hee is to observe which directions as hee shall, from tyme to tyme, receive from the Companye
16/06/49	4	Ordered that the Companie meete every day at 3 a clocke afternoone and that, as soone as five of them are mett, to procede in the present busines
16/06/49	5	Agreed that Mr Clapthorne shall bee overseer generall to the workes, to give accoumpt monthly to the Companie how they proceede and to treat with such persons through whose growndes any cutts in draynes are to bee made and to certifie the Company thereof and as a gratification for his paynes during that employment hee shall receive £100 paid from the treasury
16/06/49	6	Resolved that Sir Cornelius Vermuydens demandes bee taken into consideration Monday next.
16/06/49	7	Memorand that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall not passe away any part of his 4000 acres untill the workes bee finished and then not above too thousand acres
16/06/49	8	Memorand that the Adventurers are to have Mr Derehams recompence for doinge the workes in Tyd St Giles, Waldersey and elsewhere, there abouts, and it shall wholly come to the use and benefit of the Adventurers
16/06/49	9	Thomas Burton brought a petition to the Companie for arreres of sallaries to workemen, due upon the first undertakinge, and received answer from the Company in that regard it doth not appeare what is due to the petitioner and hee acknowledged that hee hath received some money of Marke Anthony towards his satisfaction but cannot expresse how much. The Adventurers cannot give any present order therein but they will endeavour to gett in the arreres for the satisfaction of the perticular of what shall appeare justly due to him out thereof
16/06/49	10	The said Mr Burton then acknowledged that £300 would pay all the arreres of the said sallaries and that most of the arreres were due to workemen under Mr Burton
18/06/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Fountayne, Mr Ingram, Mr Castell, Mr Crane, Mr Jennings
18/06/49	2	Sir Cornelius Vermuyden demandes as director of the workes was taken into consideration and severall answers made to perticulers thereof and a copie of the

answers ordered to bee delivered to Sir Cornelius, and hee to bee heard againe thereupon at the next meeting of the Companie the first of any busines

- 18/06/49 3 **[Page 10]** Mr Turner and Mr Palmer were sent to seale up a trunke of writings concerninge the Company of Adventurers and Participants which were discovered to be in Westminster, and to bringe the said truncke of writings to the place of meetinge aforesaid viz - Mr Henleys howse
- 19/06/49 1 Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Gorges, Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley, Mr Crane, Mr Ingram, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings, Mr Bradley, Mr Thurloe, Lord St John, Mr Spaldinge, Mr Annesley
- 19/06/49 2 Sir Cornelius Vermuyden came and delivered in to the Adventurers his ultimate answers in writinge by way of replication to the Adventurers answers to his demandes, formerly given in, which were read over to the Adventurers and thereupon they resolved to lay it by and enter upon some other busines for the present, and they agreed to propound to the Lords what theire sence is thereupon. And further they thought it not fitt to depend upon Sir Cornelius Vermuyden any longer but make choice of some other to goe on with this sumers worke, beginninge on the north side of Bedford River. But yet the Adventurers did then expresse that they would determyn nothing therein themselves untill they received the Lordes concurrence therein and ordered that Sir Edward Partherich and Mr Fountayne tomorrow morninge attend the Lordes for theire direction therein.
- 19/06/49 3 Ordered that Mr Jennings and Mr Bradley, instead of Mr Castell and Mr Crane, who are gone out of towne, bee desired to sollicite the busines of the 12000 acres before the committee
- 19/06/49 4 Upon mention made whether Mr Maynard and Mr Chute might not meete and debate the said busines and possibly might determyn the same without further trouble. Mr Henley having byn with Mr Maynard retorned and told the Companie that Mr Maynard would desire Mr Chute to meete him tomorrow morning for that purpose.
- 19/06/49 5 Sir Cornelius Vermuydens demands
- 1 That when the workes have cost £90000 from henceforward to be accounted, then with more expended Sir Cornelius Vermuyden is to pay his part pro rata 4000 acres
- 2 That Sir Cornelius Vermuyden is and stands freed of all taxes layd heretofore and such taxes as from hence forward are layd to bee freed thereof also untill £90000 bee raised
- 3 That after the judgement of such partes wherein the 4000 acres lye, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall enjoy the same but hee shall have no conveyance thereof in toto onely for so much as there is adjudged pro rata and in respecte of what part the Participants have out of the remayning 90000 acres
- 4 The tax bee layd out in this yeare to bee 5s the acre, in the next yeares, 1650 and 1651 the rest of what the worke will cost and the worke is not to bee retarded or delayed but goe on speedily
- 5 That the comptrollment, touchinge the directions, may bee so lyimited that it shall not bee in prejudice to Sir Cornelius in respect of his 4000 acres, or otherwise, and that hee shall bee freed of the charges and taxes towards any worke in vaine, made, nor bee prejudiced for the retardinge the worke for want of going on as it should

6 The landes sett out in Fassett and Yaxely to bee parcell of the 4000 acres and the remaynder beinge about 2300 acres to be set out indifferently out of the landes sett out in the severall places of Peterborough soake

7 The £1000 to bee paid mee this tyme with any convenience

8 That hereof may be made articles in due forme of law

19/06/49

6 **[Page 11]** Sir Cornelius Vermuydens demandes answered perticularly as followeth

1 As to the first, it was agreed unto as to the dreyninge

2 As to the 2nd, hee shall bee freed of taxes as in respect of the 4000 acres recompence and onely freed of that as to the makinge of the workes, not to the repayres after adjudication of any part. And if hee enjoy the 4000 acres, or then any benefitt or recompence, that may bee had or obteyned in respecte of dreyninge or melioration in Crowland, Deepinge, Ellow, Holland, the north of Wisbich or in any other parts adjacent to the levell shall come entirely to the Adventurers and Participants and their assigned

3 To the 3rd, when any proportion of land is sett out and adjudged to the Adventurers and Participants, hee shall have his equall proportion in that part answerable to 80000 acres in the whole to bee indifferently sett out. And that no grant made by Sir Cornelius of the 4000 acres or any part thereof untill the whole levell bee dreyned shall bee valid or effectuell nor the parties trusted to make any such assurance to any grantee. And that after the whole levell is adjudged dreyned, hee shall not passe away above 2000 aces untill ten yeares after the said adjudication

4 To the 4th, that the Companie will from tyme to tyme raise such taxes as shall bee requisite for the carrying on and perfecting of the worke and without any delay as concerning themselves in peril of interest

5 That no comptrollment shall bee made of any worke designed by Sir Cornelius without consent of 11 of the Adventurers and Participants at least, whereof the Earle of Arundell, Earl of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Henley and Mr Castell or three or more of them to be of the number whereby Sir Cornelius Vermuyden may bee fully satisfied that there shall bee nothinge done therein to his prejudice in particuler or to the prejudice of the Company in generall.

6 The 6th is answered in the former whereby it is resolved to be indifferently sett out through the whole levell, equall with the Adventurers and Participants

7 To the 7th, that hee shall have £300 att present and the residue thereof to bee paid by £20 a month duringe the continuance of the worke

8 To the 8th, that this agreement shall bee entered as an order of the Adventurers and Participants accordinge to the Acte of Parliament which is the best security wee can give and which shall bee forthwith entered as soone as the designe shall be approved by the Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John and Mr Henley. And if the Lord Chief Justice St John cannot bee prevayled with to spare to doe it, then to desire the Earl of Arundell to undertake it with the Earle of Bedford and Mr Henley.

19/06/49

7 Sir Cornelius Vermuydens answer of reply to the said answer to the Companie to his demandes

1 If the worke bee done substantially as I intend, expect no lesser charges and your

desired comptrollment would still call out expend not so much, doe not such a worke so great and so substantiall, and perhaps a dry season concurringe, you might have it adjudged and afterwards bee forced (if not proving sufficient for the floodes) to remake it and draw mee to contribute upon pretence of maytenance (besides the discreditt of the worke thereof) excuse mee to become contributory till 90000 bee expended

2 The first part is answered in the former and as to melioration I pretend nothinge therein but for to give direction for the dreyninge in other places, I desire to reserve it to myselfe, in regard you refuse to give mee 4000 acres, upon which I offer it.

3 Upon any proportion of land and where it shall bee, I stand upon my former note in regard it lies most convenient for the rest of my estate and to have not it conveyed accordingly, for I desire no conveyance in toto pro rata, and for not havinge power to dispose of any land, I am contented to bee part 2000 acres five yeares after the adjudication but as to the rest I desire to bee free, although my present resolutions are not to part with any part of it, neither now nor hereafter, but under favour I desire to be master on my owne

[Page 12] 4 I have answered in my note for those taxes will bee requisite to speed the worke for the comon benefitt of all

5 To say it shall bee noe prejudice is no argument and my experience is such that in case you should comptroll, I am sure it will be, and therefore I stand upon your owne offer which is that if in case any worke by you comptrolled prove ineffectuall, yet I should enjoy any recompence not bee charged with those workes

6 Is partly answered in the 3rd and whereas some doe objecte that my proportion will bee better dreynd then the rest, I answer it is possible by reason it lies further from the fall, and further the land is not to bee adjudged but by a whole levell and, therefore, if it bee not a generall dreyninge, I cannot enjoy my proportion

7 I agree to £300 present and the rest to be paid £50 a month

8 I expect to have it under your handes and sealed in due forme of Law as also entered in your booke and this is your owne offer. As for my designe, after wee are agreed I will discover it to the Earle of Bedford and my Lord Chief Justice St John which is needless in regard you take eleaven to comptroll from tyme to tyme although my experience is so well knowne, that under favour, it is frivolous, and I cannot but much wonder that you put mee to replication having heitherto performed your busines so long freely without any stipulations with care travell and charge and with all consideringe that in my desired recompence, I become a joint Adventurer, onely you contribute for mee but 4000 acres and so upon that small advantage I recover your lost estates and gaine to the Comon Wealth a great and vast Country.

20/06/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Earle of Arundell, Lord Chief Justice St John, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Spaldinge, Mr Bradley, Mr Gorges, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings
20/06/49	2	In pursuance of an order made yesterday, Sir Edward Partherich and Mr Fountayne did this morninge attend the Earle of Arundell and the Lord Chief Justice St John touchinge Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and retorned answer with the Company that theire Lordships therein concurr with the Company accordinge to the order made there
20/06/49	3	It was ordered what workes were most proper to bee first made this yeare and upon debate resolved that the workes from the north side of Bedford River to the River of

Welland were sett to bee first done, and it was also proposed that some persons bee appointed to compute the charge by the rodde to doe the worke by banckes as was debated

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| 20/06/49 | 4 | It was resolved that Sir Miles Sandys and Sir Edward Partherich and Mr Latch bee desired to call Mr Clapthorne and Lieutenantt Colonell Dodson, and whome else they thinke fitt to there assistance, to prepare a designe of the workes to bee done this summer and to bringe in the same to the Companye with all convenient speede |
| 20/06/49 | 5 | The Earle of Portland sent one to attend the Companye touchinge the 2000 acres claymed by Mr Weston in Waldersey and the Lord Chief Justice St John was desired by the Company to declare there resolutions therein to the messenger that they conceive the legall interest in the said 2000 acres, together with the other 10000 acres sometymes intended for the Kinge, is clearely in the Adventurers and Participants |
| 21/06/49 | 1 | [Page 13] Earle of Bedford, Mr John Russell, Mr Gorges, Mr Annesley, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Ingram, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings |
| 21/06/49 | 2 | Upon the receipt of a lettter from Mr Marshall of Wisbich, it was ordered the George Smith the clarke to the Company write a letter to Mr Marshall to the effecte followinge viz - To give Mr Marshall thanks for his letter, and that the Company desire to know what contract was made about the wheelebarrowes, for they conceive by Mr Peters letter the prices are high and Mr Peters price hee mentioned here was but 2s and 6d a peece the barrowes and 5d or 6d the spindles and that no power was given to Mr Peters to contract without Mr Marshall and that if hee joyned in it they will take care for the performance, otherwise they take themselves not to bee bound by Mr Peters contrActe. And that what tyme hee shall imploy in their behalves they will take as a respecte done to the Company |
| 21/06/49 | 3 | Sir Cornelius Vermuyden sent word by Mr Henley to the Companie that now hee is contented to accept of 4000 acres where they are pleased to sett it forth |
| 21/06/49 | 4 | Ordered by and with consent of the Earle of Bedford and John Latch Esquire that the said Earle shall have one hundred acres in the Lorshipp of Thorney, formerly included in the first lott, to make up the same full 4000 acres and that in lieu thereof the said John Latch shall have the Earle of Bedfords 100 acres parcell of 2000 acres formerly set apart in Westmore |
| 21/06/49 | 5 | Ordered that the roll of every severall tax, when it is perfected and engrossed, bee signed by 6 or more of the Companye |
| 21/06/49 | 6 | The Earle of Portland sent his servant for his copie of the patent, touching the 2000 acres which hee claymed, which was ordered to bee sent to him and was delivered to the messenger |
| 22/06/49 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Edward Patherich, Mr Annesley, Mr Gorges, Mr John Russell, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Henley, Mr Latch, Mr Fountayne, Mr Ingram |
| 22/06/49 | 2 | Sir Miles Sandys Esqr and Sir Edward Partherich, havinge had the assistance of Mr Clapthorne and Lieuttenant Colonell Dodson (according to the order and desire of the Company made on Tuesdaie last), brought in a designe and estimate in writinge of the workes of dreyninge thought fitt to bee done this sumer which they were desired to leave with the clarke for the use of the Company and did accordingly leave the same |

22/06/49	3	The Earle of Bedford declared some reasons why he could not conveniently performe the place of treasurer for the Companie although elected by the generall consent of the Company in the Temple Hall Thurday 24th June instant. The Companie used some arguments to his Lordshipp to continue the place which beinge excused and refused, they tooke the busines into consideration and Robert Henley Esqr beinge a person nominated was chosen to bee treasurer for the Company by all Adventurers then present, but in regard Mr Henley alledged that hee could not for present take the execution of the place upon him in so short warninge and therefore desired the Company to appoint George Smith to receive the first tax of 2s and 6d per acre, payable the first of August next ensuinge. It was thereupon payable that the said George Smith clarke to the Company bee deputy to receive the said tax in so much thereof [Page 14] as shall bee brought in and paid to him by the first of August next ensuinge as aforesaid, and that his acquittance for all somes of money received by himsssssss to the intent and purpose, shall bee a sufficient warrant and discharge to the partie or parties payinge the same
22/06/49	4	Mr Gorges delivered a message to the Company from Mr Weston that hee was content to accept of the 2000 acres claymed from them theire interest and right to grant it to him and in answer thereunto, it was resolved to attend the committee (to whome the busines is referred) on Monday next to affect and justifie there right therein.
23/06/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Thomas Thyme, Sir Thomas Gardiner, Mr Henley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings
23/06/49	2	Mr Jennings acquainted the Company of one Mr Parrolle, an artist in Hatfield Chase, that is ready to serve them if they please to comande him and thereupon Mr Jennings was desired by the Company to write to him to meete them at Peterborough the 4th of July next
23/06/49	3	Mr Henley likewise named one Mr Moore, another artist that offers to draw a mappe of the levell for £10, and the Company likewise resolved that hee should be likewise desired to meete at Peterborough the same day
23/06/49	4	Ordered that George Smith, clarke to the Companie, shall have £100 paid sallarie to beginne for the 14th this month and £1 for every search by any that are not Adventurers or Participants for every engrossement and copie that is not for the Companie in generall clarkes fees and if they require a hand one shillinge more. This sallarie to bee paid as all other sallaries viz - by the treasurer for which the said George Smiths acquittance shall from tyme to tyme bee a sufficient warrant and discharge
23/06/49	5	Upon the desire of many of the inhabitants of the great levell, it is ordered that Lieutenantt Colonell Dodson bee desired to give a meetinge to the Adventurers and Participants at Peterborough the 4th of July next and affoord his advice and assistance in the works of dreyninge and the Company will take into theire consideration a fitt recompence for him in that behalfe
23/06/49	6	Ordered that the Adventurers and Participants, or as many of them as will doe meete at Peterborough 4th July 1649, and every one to beare his owne charges and the charges of his assistants, and that the charges of such friendes and Country gent as shall bee att theire ordinaries to bee defrayed by the treasurer (on the Companies joint stocke) for such of them hee shall thinke requisite in regard to the honour and good of the Company
23/06/49	7	Mr Toll sent a letter to Mr Henley (one of the Adventurers and treasurer to the Companie) to acquaint the Company that hee could procure them £1000 to Lynne the next weeke which was accepted and Mr Henley was desired to send him thanks for it

23/06/49	8	The clarke of the Company was appointed to attend the Earle of Arundell from the Companie to desire his Lordshipp to write to Sir Hamond Lestrangle to procure Mr Fisher to meete the Adventurers, with all such bookes plotts, mappes as hee hath in his custodie concerning the levell, at Peterborough the 4th July next
27/06/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr John Russell, Mr Edward Russell, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Fountayne, Mr Gorges, Mr Henley, Mr Issac Jones, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings
27/06/49	2	[Page 15] The Companie beinge moved to sett another tax for the first worke, it was upon debate ordered to bee taken into further consideration on Saterdag next
27/06/49	3	Ordered that Mr George Smith, receivor of the first tax of 2s 6d per acre, doe forthwith pay two hundred poundes to Mr Toll upon his bill for payment of the like some to Robert Castell Esqr upon sight of the said bill at Lynne
28/06/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Annesley, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley, Mr Latch
28/06/49	2	Ordered that the 333 acres 1 rodde and 13 perches sett in the rolle in the 12th lott, as belonginge to the Lady Hamond, bee entered on Sir Thomas Thyme and so it beinge added to his 666 acres and 2 rodde and 27 perches in the said lott. Hee will then stand for one thousand acres in that lott and Sir Thomas Thyme agreed to pay the taxes for it
28/06/49	3	Ordered that the money bee paid for the 600 wheelbarrowes, accordinge to the contrActe appearinge by Mr Marshalls letter bearinge date the 25th June last, beinge read to the Company and that £60 in part thereof bee paid to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden upon his bill to Adryan Peters for payment of the like some upon sight thereof in the Country to Mr Castell towards the payment of the men contrActed with for the wheelbarrowes
28/06/49	4	Ordered that a 2d bill of exchange (the first not beinge paid) from any Adventurers or Participant payinge his money or tax to Mr Castell in the Country shall bee a sufficient warrant and discharge for the receivor to charge and discharge him thereof
28/06/49	5	The place to be named for the payment of the taxes is deferred to bee resolved at the next meetinge
28/06/49	6	Ordered that the clarke shall bee allowed to take one shilling and six pence a side for every side engrossed in the booke of engrossement conteyninge 47 lynes in a side with a margent, answerable to the patterne and one shillinge and six pence for every engrossment although the same conteyne part of one side. And it is further ordered that every Adventurer and Participant shall stand lyable for all taxes and charges incedent for the proportion and number of acres that is sett on him in the rolle for taxes until his assigned or assigned shall bringe in and enrolle theire severall grants or assigned for the same or any part thereof in the clarkes booke appointed for that purpose
28/06/49	7	Ordered that the setting of a new tax bee taken into consideration att the next meeting
29/06/49	1	Mr Annessie, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Fountayne, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Henley, Mr Bradley
29/06/49	2	The Companie takinge into consideration the necessity of havinge an able director for the worke, upon debatexxx it was thought fitt and resolved to make some propositions to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden in order to a new agreement with him, if hee shall thinke fitt to meete att Peterborough the 4th July next and shall there treat and agree with the

Company meetinge there

1 To give him 4000 acres for his recompence for perfectinge of the worke with such qualifications as shall bee thought fitt and agreed

2 That hee shall have his proportion of 4000 acres in such parts of the levell as shall bee adjudged accordinge to the proportion that 4000 acres beareth to 95000 acres in the whole

[Page 16] 3 That hee shall have three hundred thirtye three poundes six shillings and eight pence for 3 yeares together, the said some to bee paid to him at the beginninge of each yeare

4 To lymitt the charge of the worke to £95000 in the whole

5 That if the perfectinge of the worke exceede £95000 then hee to have but 3000 acres, and if it exceede £100000 to have *[a space is left here but later entries indicate this is none]*

29/06/49 3 Ordered that in the absence of the Earle of Arundell and the Lord Chief Justice St John, Sir Edward Partherich bee added to joyne with the Earle of Bedford and Mr Henley to receive and consider the design for the workes

30/06/49 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Mr Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Latch, Mr Bradley, Mr Jennings

30/06/49 2 Ordered that Mr George Smith, the receivor of the first tax of 2s 6d, doe forthwith pay the some of £500 of the money for the said tax received by him to Wyatt Perkins of Pinchbacke upon his bill for payment of the like some to Mr Castell at Mr Fishers howse in Wisbich on the 13th July next

30/06/49 3 Ordered that a letter bee written to some of the Adventurers meeting att Peterborough to the effect followinge viz -

That the Adventurers and Participants findinge cause of urgent busines for their stay in towne until Monday come sennight hee past desired to bee escused in not meetinge accordinge to former appointment at Peterborough the 4th of July next but resolved that noe delay shall bee admitted and therefore desired Sir Edward Partherich and Mr Jennings two of the Company (who were desired to goe downe) signifie to the Adventurers and artists appointed to meete at Peterborough and they to advise touchinge the levell in generall and for the present that the Kings Banke (espetially in that part which cannot bee done but in a dry season) bee speedily bee made up and for repayre of the sasses in Well Creeke and that they had taken order for retorne of money to Mr Castell and that, as soone as the busines is over on Monday come sennight next, they intend (God willing) to bee att Peterborough and returned thanks to them for their trouble

30/06/49 4 According to order of refference bearinge date 29th of May last, the committee touchinge the 12000 acres mett in the exchequor chamber

Sir John Danvers, Mr Reynolds, Mr Miles Corbett, Mr John Goodwyn, Mr Lemon, Mr Scott

30/06/49 5 Mr Reynolds in the chayre (Mr Weston appearinge) insisted upon his 2000 acres parcell of the 12000 acres designed to the late King Charles by the undertakers of the said levell
[Page 17]

Resolved that upon Monday come sennight next, the parties shall bee heard on both sides by consent peremptorily without further delay or notice given

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| 30/06/49 | 6 | Resolved that the Adventurers shall not understand this pretence of tithe as discouragment but that they goe to the worke of dreyning in the meane tyme |
| 30/06/49 | 7 | Ordered by the Adventurers that Mr George Smith send the Bill of Exchange lately received of Mr Toll for payment of £200 to Mr Castell at Lynne unto the said Mr Castell by Mr Jennings who is to meete him at Peterborough in the next weeke. And the like order for Sir Cornelius Vermuydens bill of £60 to be paid by Mr Peters to Mr Castell |
| 06/07/49 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Henley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Latch, Mr Hewett |
| 06/07/49 | 2 | The Earle of Bedford acquainted the Company that hee lately received a letter from his Lord Gorges certyinge that hee hath assigned his Adventure landes in the Great Levell to his sonne Richard Gorges Esqr |
| 06/07/49 | 3 | Whereas it was agreed on the sixteenth of June last that John Hopkinson should have 20s a weeke for his sallary from the tyme of passinge the Acte, it is now ordered that Mr George Smith, receivor of his first tax, shall pay the said sallary to the said John Hopkinson five weekes endinge on Tuesday last, and his acquittance shall bee a sufficient discharge to the said receivor for payment thereof |
| 07/07/49 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley, Mr Latch, Mr Bradley, Mr Hewett |
| 07/07/49 | 2 | It was desired and agreed that Sir Miles Sandys write a letter to Mr Latham to send up all such papers, mappes, writings and evidences which doe perticulerly concerne the Company and that are in his custodie |
| 07/07/49 | 3 | Whereas by order of 22nd of June last, Robert Henley Esqr was chosen treasurer for the Company by all the Adventurers then present but for some reasons could not at that tyme take upon him the execution of the said place but desired Mr Smith, clarke to the Company, to bee receivor for the first tax onely in his steade, now upon the motions of the Earle of Bedford this day that the said Mr Henley would at present take the said office of treasurer upon him, hee beinge present did accept thereof, onely desired in his absence that the money should bee paid to one Mr Shalcrosse, scrivenor at his howse, betweene the two Temple Gates. otherwise when hee is in towne to bee paid to himselfe at his howse against Temple Barre. It is therefore ordered [Page 18] that the said Robert Henley Esqr from this day forward bee treasurer for the Company to issue out and receive moneyes accordingly and that hee shall have a hundred poundes paid sallary for the same and according to his desire the money is to bee paid in at the places in manner as aforesaid |
| 07/07/49 | 4 | Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Gorges, Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley, Mr Jones, Mr Hewett, Mr Latch, Mr Bradley, Mr Andrew Henley |
| 07/07/49 | 5 | The Committee touchinge the 12000 acres designed to the Kinge mett in the exchequer chamber at Westminster and Mr Weston with his councell being present incisted upon his 2000 acres claymed by him as part of the said 12000 acres, where after much debate of the Councell on both sides, it was agreed by the Adventurers and Mr Weston that an order should bee drawne up by consent that Mr Weston should come in as Adventurer with them for 2000 acres payinge his proportionable share of the taxes, and assessed with the Adventurers together with all charges and disbursments proportionably from |

the 29th May last

07/07/49	6	Whereas the Adventurers tooke into their consideration what answer they should retorne to the committee touching the proportion made to them of giving 3000 acres to the Comon Wealth and upon full debate the Adventurers did resolve and unanimously declare that unles they might enjoy the 95000 acres according to the Act of Parliament already passed (onely admitting Mr Weston for his 2000 acres) the recompence would not countervayle there hazard and charge and dared not to proceede further in the said undertaking
10/07/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Thyme, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley, Mr Bradley
10/07/49	2	Upon a consideration and debate of the necessity of some speedie course to bee taken for the raising of money for the present occasion and workes of this somer in regard the tax sett is paid by very few of the Adventurers and Participants, it was thought requisite that £10000 should bee forthwith raised and it is therefore ordered that 4000 acres (of the 12000 acres) in Peterborough, Crowland and Wisbich bee forthwith sold to any fower or more persons that will become purchasors thereof at 50s per acre for the said whole 4000 acres free of all taxes untill adjudication of that part of the fennes where the same lyeth, and then afterwards to bee lyable for maintenance of the workes pro rata so as the money bee speedily paid in for present occasion for the workes
10/07/49	3	Mr Gorges and Mr Fountayne are desired to sollicit the busines on Thursday next when the report is to bee made to the Parliament touchinge Mr Westons 2000 acres which hee claymed as also touchinge the other 10000 acres
16/07/49	1	Sir Gilbert Gerrard, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Henley, Mr Jones, Mr Fountayne, Mr Bradley, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden
16/07/49	2	Ordered that the Company doe intend on Thursday next to attend the committee touchinge the 2000 acres claymed by Mr Weston and in regard of his [Page 19] delay hitherto, they are resolved that if hee will not accept of the 2000 acres upon the termes proposed at the last meeting of the committee that then they expect hee should perticularly produce his evidences to make his tithe appeare and that the Company hold themselves acquitted of their offer made to him and they are resolved to have the whole 95000 acres for their recompence accordinge to the Acte otherwise not to proceede in the worke any further and Mr Weston is to have notice of this order
16/07/49	3	Ordered that the 4000 acres formerly ordered to bee sold bee onely defalked and taken out of their parts that doe not pay in their taxes. And in case the taxes bee all paid, then to bee allowed out of the whole proportion to every man's share
20/07/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley, Mr Latch, Mr Fountayne
20/07/49	2	Resolved that the Adventurers in towne begin their journey on Thursday next and Mr Henley as treasurers to stay in towne a weeke longer for the receivinge of the money for the tax and about passing the Act for settling the 12000 acres, and a letter to bee written to the Adventurers now in the fennes of their purpose to bee at Peterborough on Fridaie next
20/07/49	3	Mr Henley agreed that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall have his lott for his recompence as director or the workes and Mr Henley is to pay all the taxes for it for the dreyninge and is eyther to have 4000 acres more indifferently sett out in lieu thereof out of the residue of

the 95000 acres or else receive a thousand poundes in money

- 20/07/49 4 Upon the motion of Mr Smith the clarke of the Company that in regard my Lord of Bedford hath some occasion for his going out of towne on Monday next, a deputy might bee accepted in his absence which was assented unto and hee named William Palmer to doe the service which was likewise accepted by the Company
- 20/07/49 5 These are to will and require you forthwith, upon sight hereof, to deliver to this bearer all writing and bookes, papers, mappes, evidences, and other mimmento notes and attempte whatsoever remayninge or beinge in your custody concerning the drayneing of the Great Level of the Fennes as you will answer or the contrary at your perills given under my hand this 21st day 1649
- 23/07/49 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Edward Patherich, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley, Mr Fountayne
- 23/07/49 2 It is ordered that notice be forthwith given to all the rest of the Adventurers which are now in towne to meete at Mr Henleys by 3 of clocke tomorrow in the afternoone viz - the Earle of Arundell and his servants, Mr Gorges, Sir Thomas Gardiner, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Jones, Mr Latch, Mr Ansley and Mr Bradley
- 23/07/49 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Gorges, Mr Isaac Jones, Sir Thomas Thyme, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Robert Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr Fountayne, Mr Andrew Henley
- 23/07/49 2 **It is** ordered that notice bee forthwith given to all the rest of the Adventurers that are now in towne to meete at Mr Henleyes by 3 a clocke tomorrow the afternoone with the Earle of Arrundell and his servant, Mr Gorges, Sir Thomas Gardner, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Jones, Mr Latch, Mr Ansley, Mr Bradley
- 24/07/49 1 **[Page 20]** Earle of Bedford, Sir Myles Sandys, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Gorges, Mr Isaac Jones, Sir Thomas Thyme, Sir Edward Partherich, Robert Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr Fountayne, Mr Andrew Henley
- 24/07/49 2 That if the Adventurers shall hereafter agree with Sir Cornelius Vermuyden for 4000 acres that hee shall not dispose of any part thereof untill the adjudication of the whole 95000 acres, and that hee shall not dispose of above in moytie of the 4000 acres for 7 yeares after the adjudication
- 24/07/49 3 Resolved and agreed that if the charge of dreyninge the great levell shall exceede the some of £90000 then Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall become an Adventurer and pay all taxes for the 4000 acres proportionable to the rest of the 95000 acres, untill the charge of dreyninge amounts unto £100000. And if the charge thereof shall exceede the some of £100000 then it shall bee the choice of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden whether hee shall become an Adventurer and pay all taxes for the 4000 acres proportionable to the rest of the 95000 acres from the tyme of passinge the Arct of Parliament or loose his recompence. Sir Cornelius Vermuyden refused to proceed up these propositions and resolves.
- 24/07/49 4 That upon Satterdaie the 4th of August next shall bee a generall meeting of all the Adventurers at Peterborough to countenance the worke and settle the same in such a way as shall bee most conducinge to the good of the worke in generall to which purpose most of the Adventurers present have agreed and promised to meete at the place aforesaid viz - Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr Fountayne, Mr Andrew Henley, and it is further ordered that letters shall bee

written to all Adventurers that are absent thereby giving them notice of this order and desire their meetings to be accordingly at the place aforesaid and the clerk to subscribe the names of any the Adventurers present to every letter

- 24/07/49 5 Mr Henley being treasurer moved the Company that hee might goe out of towne to take the ayre for 4 or 5 daies and that hee had given order to his oldest sonne Mr Andrew Henley and Mr Shalcrosse the scrivenour to receive the tax money that comes into the treasury in his absence whose acquittances hee would certifie, which motion was assented unto
- 06/08/49 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Thomas Stanley, Mr Gorges, Mr Fountayne, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Hamond, Mr Castell, Mr Crane
- 06/08/49 2 Whereas by an order of the 11th June last it was agreed that the landes of every defaulter in payinge the tax by the first of August then next should be sold att the next generall meetinge of the Adventurers and [Page 21] whereas in part of the tax for the first lott as yet paid, wee doe expose of the landes conteyned in the said lott, and every part thereof, to be accordingly forthwith sold to any person or persons that will contract for the same or any part thereof, and in case the same be not sold at this meeting or so much thereof as will pay the tax and penalties, wee doe order the same or so much to be sold at any generall meetinge hereafter of 5 or more of the Adventurers and Participants as will satisfie the arrere of tax and penalties now unpaid and all further tax and penalties which shall grow and be charged upon the said lott until sale, and in case more be sold then will pay the taxes and penalties, the surplusage of the mony to goe to the proprietors and according to the Acte of Parliament but if the proprietors at any tyme before contrActe for sale, pay in all their arrere tax and penalties then the sale to be spared
- The like order touching the landes in the 2nd lott
- The like order for every mans proportion of lands in all the rest of the lotts that hath paid no part of the first payment (except the Lord Chief Justices St John, hee having acquainted the Company that his money lay ready and the treasurer is hereby ordered to send to receive the same). And it is further ordered that the landes of all defaulted in payinge in the moytie of the tax payable the first of August instant be exposed to be sold in the like manner, if the same moytie of tax be not duly paid on or before the twentieth of this month of August.
- 06/08/49 3 Adjourned to Wisbech at the signe of the Blacke Bull
- 07/08/49 1 Wisbich: Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Crane, Mr Fountayne, Mr Gorges, Sir Thomas Stanley, Mr Hamond, Mr Marsham, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Latch, Mr Castell, Mr Bradley
- 07/08/49 2 Ordered that 300 acres part of the 2nd and 10th lotts of Sir Myles Sandys, lying on the north side of Bedford River be spared from the penaltie of sale in regard Sydenham Lukins and Edward Perry gent have a conveyance of the same from Sir Miles Sandys by indenture dated the first of August instant and paid the taxes for the same with the paynes
- 07/08/49 3 Ordered that it be referred to the Adventurers next meetinge at London in consideration who shall be an assigne of an Adventurer or Participant within the intention of the Acte

- 08/08/49 1 Wisbich
- Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Crane, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Marsham, Mr Castell, Mr Latch, Mr Bradley, Mr Spalding
- 08/08/49 2 Ordered that in case Mr Clapthorne and Colonell Underwood within 14 days next ensuinge pursue purchasors that will for the 3991 acres hereunder pay £10000 viz £1000 downe and £1000 weekly untill the said £10000 bee paid, that the Adventurers will accept thereof, unles the Adventurers before notice of their contract shall have otherwise disposed of the same
- Fassett - 1103 acres
Yaxley - 661 acres
Stanground - 191 acres
Rest of Flag Fenne Whittlesey - 1156 acres
South parte - 59 acres
The Middle - 734 acres
Burrow Little Fen - 88 acres
- 3991 acres
- 08/08/49 3 Ordered that Colonell Castell shall make choice of all such officers as are necessary for the workes and it is wholly referred unto him to appoint fitt recompence and sallary to all such officers and shall have hereby power to change them and choose others in their roles from tyme to tyme so lymited as hee shall thinke fitt and see cause
- 08/08/49 4 **[Page 22]** In answer to the propositions made 7th August 1649 by Gregory Cawsell Esquire, John Hobart Esqr, and others touchinge the Comission of Sewers
- To the first proposition what Comissioners should bee named on behalfe of the Adventurers in that Comission, wee shall be humble suytours to the Lords Councell for the great seale that their names may bee incerted viz -
- William Earle of Bedford
Sir Miles Sandys knight and baronett
Sir Edward Partherich knight
William Crane Esquire
Robert Castell Esquire
Samuelle Spaldinge gent
- And desire they may have tymely notice of the sitting of the Comissioners
- To the 2nd proposition for bounding the Comission of Sewers, wee conceive (and with submission to the Lords Councell for the great seale) should humbly propound that there may bee a provisor incerted in the Comission to this effect - viz - provided that the said Comissioners or any of them shall not intermeddle with any part of the Great Levell of the Fennes, extendinge itselfe into the Countyes of Northampton, Norffolke, Suffolke, Lincolne, Cambridge and Huntingdon and the Isle of Elie or some of them, and appointed to bee dreyned by Acte of this present Parliament, nor shall anyway intermeddle which interrupt, demolish or endamage any worke, cutt, dreyne or watercourse made or to bee made by William Earle of Bedford and other his Adventurers and Participants, their heires and assigned or any of them by venture or in pursuance of the said Act of Parliament

14/08/49	1	Mr Henleys howse Earle of Bedord, Mr John Russell, Mr Edward Partherich, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Thyme, Sir Edward Patherich, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Hamond, Mr Marsham, Mr Latch, Mr Bradley, Mr Lukins
14/08/49	2	Received of Mr Latham three severall mappes of the fennes and a booke made by Mr Hayward of the survey of the fennes, a copie of an act of state for the confirmation of Lynne Law dates 20th July 1631, an exemplification of a Law of Sewers at Wisbech dated 29 Sept 1631, a copie of another law of sewers in parchement for warninge of the 4 goates dated 1st October 1631 and 3 severall deedes under the hande and seale of Henry Dereham Esqr all dated 27th of June 1634 and also a grant from the Earle Marshall of the Armes belonginge to the corporation together with 4 prints of seales in wax and the seale of the corporation itselfe cutt in silver Andrew Henley
14/08/49	3	Ordered that the clarke give notice to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to pay £60 which Mr Peters was to pay by Bills of Exchange
14/08/49 p.m	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Fountayne, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Miles Sandys, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Latch, Mr Hamond, Mr Thomas Browne, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Marsham
14/08/49 p.m	2	The Earle of Bedford desired William Palmer to bringe a copie of the lott booke to Mr Henleys for the Adventurers use to the intent the originall must be sealed up and preserved from defacing
14/08/49 p.m	3	[Page 23] Ordered that Mr Henley speake with Mr Toll and take care that £200 at least be retorned into the Countrie and that the Bill of Exchange be returned to Mr Castell together with other Bill of Exchange from Sir Cornelius Vermuyden
14/08/49 p.m	4	Ordered the Mr Latch will appoint any friend to lay down the tax and scott laid upon the first lott hee shall have the same equity as Mr Latch hath
14/08/49 p.m	5	Memorand to write to Mr Castle to enquire Mr Gascoignes dwelling neere Peterborough
14/08/49 p.m	5	Another letter to be written to Mr Hewett that his taxe money was expected accordinge to his expense and that if it be not paid by Saterday next the land be sold
14/08/49 p.m	7	Order that Mr Hopkins goe to Mr Weston and desire him the expedite the Act
14/08/49 p.m	8	Ordered that Mr Dereham be admitted an Adventurer according to the effect of this deed
16/08/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Dereham, Mr Latch, Mr Fountaine, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Lukins, Mr Browne
16/08/49	2	Mr Latch delivered in a counterparte of the Lord Gorges deede to Mr Dereham dated the 27th of June <i>decimo carr</i> which together with the other deed which hee delivered in on Tuesday last, were ordered to be kepte for those Adventurers for whome they doe belong
16/08/49 p.m	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Crane, Mr Latch, Mr Fountaine, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Browne

16/08/49 p.m	2	<p>Mr Latham being desired by the Company to state their accounts promised not to goe out of towne untill he had done this utmost indeavor to perfect them and soe to deliver up all the writinge which concerne the Adventurers. In the mean tyme hee delivered those writinge folowing viz -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Articles of Agreement between the Adventurers and Simon Hill touchinge Welland River dated 5 Dec 1633 — Simon Hills bond dated 1st December 1633 for the performance of covenants — Mr Hills estimate touching the same — Articles of agreement dated 29 November 1633 betweene the Earle of Bedford and Mr Burrell — Mr Burrells bond for performance — Humberson March his bond dated 6 Dec 1634 for the assurring of a peece of land to the Earle of Bedford
18/08/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Dereham, Mr Fountaine, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Gorges, Sir Thomas Gardiner, Mr Crane, Mr Latch, Mr Ingram, Mr Bradley
18/08/49	2	Ordered that the north bank of Mortons Leame from Peterborough to Guyhurne be made 60 foote in the seat, 25 foote high
18/08/49	3	<p>[Page 24] Ordered that notice be forthwith given to all the Adventurers following that are in arrere of the particuler somes that they are in arrere and that notwithstanding theire land bee already exposed to sale by the former order yet ennie the said Adventurers shall hereby have further days to pay in theire arreres until this day fortnight or for default of payment then their land shall forthwith bee sold</p> <p>Henry Earle of Arrundell for 5700 acres - £712.00 The heires or assigned of the late Earle of Bollingbroke for 2000 acres - £250.00.00 Richard Gorges Esqr for 9230 acres - 1153.15.00 John Russell Esqr for 3665 acres - £458.02.06 William Tyringham Esqr for 5000 acres - £625.00.00 John Hewett Esqr for 4000 acres - £500.00.00 The heires or assigned of Sir Robert Gorges knight - 1000 acres - £125.00.00 Arthur Ansley Esqr for 833 acres - £104.02.06 William Marshall Esqr for 500 acres - £62.10.00</p>
18/08/49	4	Memorand that the order above written be inclosed in ennie letter which is to be sent to each of the perticuler defaulters and ennie letter is ordered to be sent by messenger on purpose
18/08/49	5	Mr Gorges declared to the Company that Mr Buckland of Hantree nere Wells is the assigned of Sir Robert Gorges
18/08/49	6	Agreed to meete agayne on Wednesday next by 9 of clocke in the afternoone at Mr Henleys. In the mean tyme ennie Adventurer is desired to promise what somes of money hee can or friendes that will undertake to rayse money and then to declare for what somes they will undertake towards the carrynge out of the worke
18/08/49	7	<p>A copie of the letter which was sent to the aforesaid Adventurers in arrere</p> <p>Whereas all the lands within the great levell have bene taxed at the rate of 2s 6d per acre and for default of payment, severall orders made for sale of such as are in arrere this day,</p>

the Adventurers and Participants at their generall meeting, taking notice of the defaulters and the great prejudice like to ensue to the worke of dreyning in case the said tax not speedily paid in, and yet being very unwilling to proceede to sale if they could possibly avoid it, have therefore, by their order (which according to their comand I send to you therewith inclosed), in further favour to you, respited that sale of your landes untill the first day of September next, but in case you doe not pay in your tax by that tyme which is for your arreres, then I am comanded to signifie to you that they will, as the necessity of the workes requires, to proceede to sale according to the Acte of Parliament without further delay which beinge all I have in comand from them I subscribe my selfe

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| 22/08/49 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Mr Fountaine, Mr Dereham, Mr Crane, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Bradley |
| 22/08/49 | 2 | <p>A letter being read for Colonell Castell, answeere was returned that tomorrow the particulars thereof should be taken into consideration. In the mean tyme the Company present have signified unto him of £1100 or £1200 returned by bills of exchange which were sent by the messenger, and of £187 to bee paid the next weeke by Mr Kirby of Lynne for Mr Dereham. And that the north banke of Mortons Leame was ordered to be 60 foote in the seate and 15 foote high but that is deferred untill more certernty of a stocke of money and that Mr Carrols Judgement can be had.</p> <p>Ordered that the clarke subscribe the names of 3 or 4 of the Adventurers present to the same letter</p> |
| 23/08/49 | 1 | [Page 25] Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Sir Thomas Gardiner, Mr Crane, Mr Latch, Mr John Russell, Mr Fountaine, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Hewett, Mr Dereham, Mr Browne |
| 23/08/49 | 2 | Ordered that any of the Adventurers that will before Saterdag next advance or procure the some of £10000, whereof £1000 bee laid downe and £1000 weekley, shall be admitted and shall have assurance at their election of any 5000 acres of the 13000 acres not allotted, freed from all charges of dreyninge untill the adjudication of that parte of the levell where the said 5000 acres shall lye and to be lyable only to maynteyninge the worke after adjudication and perfect dreyninge of that parte of the levell |
| 23/08/49 | 3 | And any other person or persons that will before Saterdag next take any other parte of the said 13000 acres, not exceeding 3000 acres arreres, shalbe admitted to advance what somes of money they will at the rate of 40s per acre for the number of 3000 acres or under, freed of charge of dreyning as aforesaid |
| 23/08/49 | 4 | Ordered that notice bee given to Mr Jones forthwith to pay in his 2d payment of the tax or in default thereof the Company will speedily proceede to the sale of the lande |
| 23/08/49 p.m | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Gorges, Mr Crane, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Latch, Mr Dereham |
| 23/08/49 p.m | 2 | <p>Ordered that a letter bee prepared against Fryday next in answer to the particulars conteyned in Colonell Castells letter of the 17th instant to the effect following viz -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — It is referred to Colonell Castell to apoint whome hee thynke fitt to cutt and save out the tymber soe as it may be portable and servicable for any worke, and the same to be brought to Salters Lode and comitted to the charge of Mr Inchbecke whome shall be allowed a recompence for his care thereof — If Colonell Castell approve of Mr Letchenmisters ability and honestie to contynue in the service of the Company knowing noe cause of exception against him |

- The Companie desire that Robert Maske with Colonell Dodsons assistance may contynue in letting out the worke
- And if Colonell Castell meanes Mr Burton of Spalding then to imploy him as overseer of those works
- It is referred to Colonell Castell to allowe what hee conceaves fitt for Mr Marshalls satisfaction considering a reasonable rent for the barne for the tyme, and an allowance for young Mr Marshalls paines therein, having hitherto allwayes had experience of old Mr Marshalls farme and respective dealinge towards them and are confident of the same still
- Colonell Castell is desired to propose such salaries as he conceives requisite for Mr Letchenmister and Mr Maske which would be most advantageous to the Company and not discontent either of them and to certifie the Companie what hee have proposed

The rest of the perticulars are referred untill the next meeting.

24/08/49	1	[Page 26] Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Tyrnningham, Mr Crane, Lord Chiefe Justice St John, Mr Fountayne, Mr Latch, Mr Dereham, Mr Ingram, Mr Hewitt, Mr Bradley
24/08/49	2	Mr Fountayne acquainted the Company that Sir Thomas Gardiner has a friende would lay downe £1000 in pursuance of a former order towards the sale of 5000 acres so as the 12000 acres may be settled by Acte of Parliament
24/08/49	3	Agreed that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall bringe in a perticular designe and not a generall designe which is to bee put in writinge under his hand that hee may not vary from it without the Adventurers consent
24/08/49	4	Ordered agreed and resolved that unles the Acte passes touchinge the 12000 acres, the Adventurers cannot proceede in the workes any further and thereupon they will desist
24/08/49	5	Agreed Sir Cornelius Vermuyden onely to directe the workes not appoint any officers
24/08/49	6	Agreed that Colonell Dodson, notwithstanding agreement with Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, shall still bee imployed as an assistant under Sir Cornelius Vermuyden (if hee shall so thinke fitt)
24/08/49	7	Agreed that Colonell Castell for the present shall have for his sallary as expendor in the workes, twenty poundes a month duringe that imployment, as also, for the future a parcell of land shall bee given him from the Adventurers as a further recompence.
24/08/49	8	Agreed that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall have a copie of certaine propositions made unto him by the Company in order to an agreement made unto him and also hee may have a copie of the Acte of Parliament (if hee pleases) delivered unto him, upon both which hee may take advice with his councill
28/08/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Mr Crane, Mr Jones, Mr Latch, Mr Gorges, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Dereham, Mr Browne
28/08/49	2	Ordered that tomorrow, the clerke inventory the writinges that are in Mr Lathams hande and to give a receipt for them for the use of the Company

28/08/49	3	Ordered that inquiry bee made against Thursday next what a printer will have for 3 or 4 copies of the Act printed in the Englishe letter after the forme of all other Actes of Parliament
28/08/49	4	Whereas Colonell Dodson informed Mr Henley that £400 or £500 will be paid at Lynne upon the bill of exchange, Mr Henley is desired to pay the money in London and returne the bill and hee shall receive noe damage thereby but the money shallbe ready at Lynne untill further order for the disposall thereof
28/08/49	5	Ordered the Colonell Dodson entertayne no more workemen then are nowe at worke in the Countie untill further order
30/08/49	1	Mr Gorges, Sir Miles Sandys, Mr Latch, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Dereham
30/08/49	2	Ordered that Colonell Dodson shall receive order from the Company on Fryday the 7th of September next [Page 27] by 12 of clocke at the furthest whether the workmen shalbe contynued at worke or not
30/08/49	3	Ordered that Mr Henley the treasurer pay unto Mr Latham tenne poundes towards his charges for 5 weeks expences in London and it shalbe allowed Mr Henley upon his account
30/08/49	4	Sir Cornelius Vermuyden sent his answer to the Adventurers propositions of the 24th August instance which answeere was delivered to the Company by Mr Gorges but nothing done in order to any agreement with Sir Cornelius
31/08/49	1	Mr Gorges, Sir Miles Sandys, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Dereham
31/08/49	2	Whereas severall Adventurers have not paid theire second payment in regards the Act for settlinge the 12000 acres is not passed, none for as much as by order of Parliament the said Act is to be reported in Wednesday next, it is ordered that severall letters be written to the Adventurers underwritten to desire them to pay in their second payment to the end the workemen may not be disimposed when a considerable somes will be advanced upon the passing of the said Act Sidenham Lukins - £18.15.00 John Marsham Esqr - £62.10.0 Sir Thomas Stanley - £25.00.00 William Crane Esqr - £100.00.00 Sir Edward Partherich - £12.10.00 Isaac Jones Esqr - £250.00.00 John Bridges Esqr - £06.06.00 Alexander Jones Esqr - £06.05.00 Robert Henley Esqr - £250.00.00
05/09/49	1	Mr Gorges, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Gardiner, Mr Isaac Jones, Mr Andrew Henley, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Latch, Mr Dereham
05/09/49	2	Money beinge wanting to contynue the workmen at worke, Mr Jones promiseth to pay £100 of his second payment forthwith. Mr Andrew Henley undertakes the like some for his fathers second payment and Mr Smith undertakes for the like some towards the Earl of Bedfords second payment.

05/09/49	3	For as much as the aforesaid £300 is undertaken to be paid in forthwith, besides the money that is remaying in bank, it is ordered that Mr Andrewe Henley to write a letter forthwith to Colonell Casstell to contynue the workemen at worke for another weeke and that the £500 of Mr Henleys which lyes ready in the Country to be expended by Colonell Castell towards the payment of the workemen
05/09/49	4	Ordered that Mr Hopkinson ride post to Wisbich with the letter to Colonell Castell and that hee attend the service in the Country and Mr Henley desires to pay him £5 to beare his charges thither and the remaynder thereof hee is to detayne in his hande towards his salarie
11/09/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Mr Andrewe Henley, Mr Jennings, Mr Browne
11/09/49	2	As touchinge the agreement with Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, hee beinge now present proposed to the Company that the perticulers in difference between them and him as to his being director of the workes of dreyning, might be referred to the Lord Chief Justice St John which was agreed to be offered to the consideration of the Company at their meeting tomorrow
11/09/49	2	[Page 28] Ordered that those Adventurers that have paid in noe parte of their first or second payment be sent unto forthwith to make payment of all or at least some good parte thereof to supply the present occasion viz - the Earl of Arrundell, Mr Gorges and Mr John Russell
11/09/49	3	Ordered that Colonell Castells letters be likewise taken into consideration by the Company at their meeting tomorrow
12/09/49	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Fountayne, Mr Jones, Mr Andrew Henley, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings, Mr Dereham
12/09/49	2	In regard the busines of the 12000 acres is not settled, whereby many are discouraged to adventure any money and some of the Adventurers to bring in their taxes whereby the worke cannot proceede, it is ordered that the workemen be paid and forthwith dismissed untill further order
12/09/49	3	For as much as a present supplie of moneys is wanting to satisfie the workmens wages for this worke, the Earl of Bedford assented to pay in the arreres of his second payment in case Mr Henley and Mr Isaac Jones would doe the like for theirs which was accordingly agreed unto and undertaken both by Mr Andrew Henley and Mr Isaac Jones, whereupon it is ordered that a proportionable satisfaction shallbe made to them and all other Adventurers and Participants which have already paid in their taxes out of ennie of the defaulters lande pro rata by sale of soe much thereof as will make full satisfaction, which said sale is appointed and ordered to bee made this day sennight in case the defaulters pay not in their proportionable partes of their taxes in the meane tyme
19/09/49	1	Sir Miles Sandys, Mr Latch, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Jennings, Mr Bradley
19/09/49	2	Ordered that the sale of the defaulters lande that have not paid in their taxes, which was by order of the Company to have bene this day, be deferred till Fryday next
21/09/49	1	Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings, Mr Bradley, Mr Vermuyden
21/09/49	2	A letter of the 19th instant being received from Colonell Dodson was read and the clarke ordered to return the answer followinge viz -

The Adventurers are now most of them out of towne and those that are present have

given me in comand to acquaint you they were in hope you had observed the order sent you last week for dismissing of the workemen, noe moneys comeing in by reason of the discouragement that lies upon the Adventurers in regard Mr Westons Act is not yet passed. The mesenger was sent from here post on Wednesday at night the 12th of this month with the order for the speedy dismissing the workemen and if hee delivered it not till Saturday next after the workemen still contynued noe fault can be objected against the Company for it. Your letter mentions not what debt is already contrActed to the workemen whome the Company expect be forthwith dismissed and they certified hither that order may bee taken for the satisfying of it. And in the meane tyme noe further debt increased or charged upon the Company untill the busines be settled in Parliament and further order from them for it which otherwise [Page 29] they apprehend will be very prejudicial to them. The Company doe not understand by your letter whether £200 you borrowed have cleered all with the workemen or howe much will cleere all with them which they desire to knowe speedily concerninge the £400 accordinge to your desire was furnished the last weeke which they apprehend would have cleered all to the end of that weeke when the order of dismissal was sent. Also concerning Mr Prowle, the gentleman present, make noe doubt but the Company (when they meete) will take his paines into consideration, and in the meane tyme desire you to supply him with some money for his present occasions, and leave the further dispose of him at present to your discretion and desire to knowe from you wherein hee may be further usefull to the Company. This being all that I had in comand at present I subscribe my selfe.

To my worthy friends Colonell Robert Castell and Lieutenant Colonell Dodson

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| 27/09/49 | 1 | Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Isaac Jones, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings |
| 27/09/49 | 2 | Whereas diverse persons which have noe interest in any of the Adventurers lands belonginge to the Great Levell of the Fennes have formerly intruded themselves into the general meetings and consultations of the Adventurers and Participants and thereupon have divulged divers matters contrary to the true meaning of the Company and to their great disadvantage, it is therefore ordered that from henceforth noe person or persons whatsoever that is not an Adventurer or Participant doe sitt amongst the Adventurers meetings if they are in consultation, but the clerke or his deputie is to give him notice of this order to the intent they may forthwith withdraw |
| 27/09/49 | 3 | Whereas some of the Company is informed that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden hath prepared a petition against the Adventurers which hee intends to have ready in Parliament (a copie whereof cannot as yet be obtayned) hath written to a member of Parliament that the Company intends to prejudice the navigation to Kings Lynne, it is therefore ordered that the agreement with Sir Cornelius Vermuyden be from henceforth suspended and Mr Henley and Mr Jennings is desired to conferre with the said member of Parliament and reporte the contente of Sir Cornelius Vermuydens letter to the Company at their next meetinge. And any Adventurer that knowes of any artist which may be usefull for the effecting of the worke of dreyning is desired to present his or their names to the Company that hee or they may be treated with as their shall be occasion |
| 27/09/49 | 4 | Whereas the passing of the Act for Mr Westons 2000 acres hath hitherto bene delayed to the great prejudice of the Company and for as much as the speedy passing of the said Act will be of great advantage to the whole Company, it is therefore ordered that the care thereof be comitted to the direction of Mr Henley for the gratifying of such as shall assistant to the speedy passing thereof |
| 27/09/49 | 5 | Ordered that ennie Adventurer be faithful to each other and not divulge any order of the Company but to such of the Adventurers and Participants as is able to bee xconformable |

to the orders of the Company. Alsoe the clerke and deputy clerke is ordered not to disclose any of the orders to any person or person that is not an Adventurer or Participant and likewise comformable to the orders of the Company

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| 27/09/49 | 6 | Ordered that the day for sale of the defaulters land be adjourned untill tomorrow at 3 of clocke in the afternoone |
| 02/10/49 | 1 | [Page 30] Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr Jennings |
| 02/10/49 | 2 | Whereas Colonell Dodson hath borrowed £200 upon your owne credit towards the payment of the workemen in the Country, it is ordered that Mr Henley repay him the £200 viz - £100 of the Earle of Arrundells money and one other £100 of Sir Miles Sandys his money |
| 02/10/49 | 3 | Whereas in favour to ennie of the Adventurers and Participants which are in arrere of their first and 2nd payments, severall taxes already past have bene appointed for the sale of their lands to the great prejudice and damage of the whole Company, it is ordered that Thursday the 8th of November next bee appointed peremptory day for the sale of all such of the Adventurers and Participants lande which have not paid their money according to the order of the 12th September last. And ennie defaulter is to take notice thereof at his perill. And it is likewise ordered that a newe tax be then sett for the carryinge on of the works |
| 02/10/49 | 4 | Ordered that Mr Henley shall be allowed to reimburse himselfe out of the next moneys that come in for taxes, such money as hee is in surplusage and hath disbursed more that hee hath received for the use of the Company |
| 02/10/49 | 5 | George Smith clerke of the Company brought in a bill this day amounting to the some of £2.19.00 disbursed by him for the use of the Companie which was allocated to the Company and Mr Henley ordered to pay the same |
| 11/10/49 | 1 | Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Thyme, Sir Edward Partherich, Bartholomew Hall attorney of the Duchie of Lancaster, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Isaac Jones, Mr Latch |
| 11/10/49 | 2 | The printed breviat touching the 12000 acres was read before the Company and by them amended |
| 11/10/49 | 3 | T he Company being in debate of raysing moneys to pay the £450 due to the workmen have ordered the clarke to write severall letters to the Adventurers, underwritten to pay in their arreres of both payments of the tax of 2s 6d per acre according to the effect of the letter following viz - |

At a meeting of the Adventurers on the 11th of this month, I was comanded by them to acquaint you they have lately receaved letters from Colonell Castell and Lieutenantt Colonell Dodson that for want of money to pay the workemen they fall into mutanies and seize upon the officers and threaten to carry them away and cutt them in peeces in case that have not speedy payment. And that divers of the Adventurers have already paid both their payments of the tax of 2 s6 d per acre and some more, they therefore desire you for the preventing of this great mischief and to preserve the reputation and honour of the Company, speedily to make payment to the treasurer of you proportion of the said tax in arrere which is as they conceive. This is that which was given in comand by them to your servant G.S.

Henry Earle of Arrundel - £612.10.00

Oliver St John Chiefe Justice of the Comon pleas - £106.05.00

John Russell Esqr - £450.00.00

Edmund Russell Esqr - £250.00.00
 William Crane Esqr - £100.00.00
 Sidenham Lukins gent - £18.15.00
 John Marsham Esqr - £63.10.00
 Sir Thomas Stanley knight - £25.00.00

£1625.00.00

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| 20/10/49 | 1 | [Page 31] Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Isaac Jones, Mr Jennings |
| 20/10/49 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Henley shall be allowed such moneys as hee hath already disbursed or shall hereafter disburse on the behalfe of the Company out of the money that shall be raised by taxes, sale of materialls or any other wayes |
| 27/10/49 | 3 | Earle of Bedford, Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Thomas Gardiner, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Ingram, Mr Fountayne, Mr Isaac Jones, Mr Carrill |
| 27/10/49 | 4 | It was putt to the question whether Sir Cornelius Vermuyden should be the director or not and resolved in the affirmative |
| 27/10/49 | 5 | Whereas upon the 11th September last Sir Cornelius Vermuyden exposed the company that the perticular in difference betweene them and him might be referred to the consideration of the Lord Cheife Justice St John, it is now ordered that his Lordshipp be desired to take the same into his consideration by whose order the Company are content to be bound, soe as Sir Cornelius Vermuyden in convenient tyme enter this consent in the clerk booke to be likewise bound thereby |
| | | Sir Cornelius Vermuyden is to have notice of this order |
| 29/10/49 | 1 | Mr Henley, Mr Crane, Mr Fountayne, Mr Ingram, Mr Latch, Mr Andrew Henley |
| 29/10/49 | 2 | Whereas Sir Cornelius Vermuyden sent a letter to the clarke desiring a copie of Lynne law to shewe the same to some that desired to purchase parte of the 95000 acres, the Company have thereupon ordered that will give full satisfaction in point of tithe to such as are desirous to purchase if they or their councell please to repaire to the Company at their meeting. |
| 29/10/49 | 3 | Ordered that the printed Act be distributed amongst the Adventurers proportionally according to the number of acres which ennie Adventurers claymed in each lott and ennie Adventurer is to be contributory according to his proportion forward the charge of printing the same |
| 29/10/49 | 4 | Ordered that one of 200 copies of the new amended breviatt be printed for the use of the Company. |
| 05/11/49 | 1 | Mr Robert Henley Snr, Mr Hamond, Mr Castell, Mr Crane, Mr Latch, Mr jennings, Mr Carrole |
| 05/11/49 | 2 | Whereas the taxes charged upon the Adventurers lands belonging to the sixteenth lott was hitherto unpaid, onely the 16th lott being now exposed to sale, and noe person or persons have as yett appeared or offered to pay the same, William Crane Esqr offers to pay the tax of 2s 6d per acre already charged upon the said lott and [Page 32] all future taxes for the purchase of the same, in consideration whereof, this being a peremptory day appointed for sale of defaulters lands, and noe man offering any more, the Adventurers land belonging to the said 16th lott is hereby sold to the said William Crane and his heires and the Company doe order that the said William Crane shall have assurance to him and his heirs and assigned according to the Act of Parliament for the |

said lande paying with surplusage.

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| 05/11/49 | 3 | Whereas the taxes of fower hundred acres in Westmore and 100 acres in Ladys Fenne belonging to the second lott are hitherto unpaid, John Carrill Esqr offers to pay the taxes of two shillings and six pence per acre already charged upon the said lande and to pay all future taxes for the same, in consideration whereof this being a peremptory day appointed for sale of defaulters lande, the said lande are hereby sold to the said John Carrill and the Company doe order that the said John Carrill shall have assurance to him his heires and assigned according to the Act of Parliament for the said lande paying with surplusage |
| 05/11/49 | 4 | Whereas Mr Dodson desires of the Company a supplie of moneys which hee is out of purse on the behalfe of the Company and for that, Mr Crane hath promised forthwith to pay in the some of one hundred poundes and Mr Carrill the some of £62.10.00, it is ordered that by the treasurers appointment Mr Dodson shall receive the said somes towards the satisfaction of such moneys as hee is out of purse |
| 05/11/49 | 5 | Concerning Mr Henley's offer of 2s 6d for all defaulters landes, the Company are willing to accept thereof upon such conditions as shall be agreed upon at their next meeting, In the meane tyme, the clarke is ordered to prepare an order accordingly |
| 05/11/49 | 6 | Ordered that Mr Henley write letters in the clarkes name to such of the Adventurers as are in arrere of their taxes to give them notice that their lande are sold for 2s 6d per acre unlesse they hath each to redeeme the same by the 20th day sennight |